



Thanksgiving Adventures in Union Square

In the bustling city of Union Square, there's a special bench where, every Thanksgiving, something magical happens. It's a day when even skyscrapers seem to smile, and everyone - from the tallest to the smallest - celebrates being American.

On this bench sits Stuffy Pete, a rather round and jolly fellow. Each year, for nine whole years, Stuffy Pete plops down on this very bench at 1 o'clock sharp. And every time, like in a fairy tale, something wonderful occurs that makes his tummy very happy.

But this Thanksgiving, Stuffy Pete isn't his usual peppy self. He's just had a gigantic feast, leaving him puffier than a stuffed teddy bear. His eyes are tiny in his roly-poly face, and he breathes like a dragon after a spicy meal. He's eaten so much, from oysters to plum pudding, that his buttons pop off like mischievous elves, playing hide and seek around the park.

While Stuffy Pete is trying to catch his runaway buttons, he sees the Old Gentleman, thin as a pencil, dressed all in black, heading towards him. Each year, this kind Old Gentleman invites Stuffy Pete to a grand Thanksgiving meal, not knowing Stuffy's already had a feast fit for a king!

This year, as the Old Gentleman approaches with a heart full of kindness, Stuffy Pete tries to tell him, in a mix of grumbles and burbles, that he's already as stuffed as can be. But the Old Gentleman, thinking Stuffy's as hungry as a bear after hibernation, insists on treating him to another Thanksgiving dinner.

So off they go, the thin Old Gentleman and round Stuffy Pete, to a restaurant where the waiters know them well. They think it's quite the

Thanksgiving tradition, the Old Gentleman feeding Stuffy Pete every year.

At the restaurant, Stuffy Pete bravely faces mountains of food. He's determined to not let down the Old Gentleman, who's beaming with joy. Stuffy battles through turkey, potatoes, pies - a true hero in a feast-fight!

After the meal, Stuffy Pete waddles out, feeling like a balloon ready to float away. But just around the corner, he feels dizzy and plops down on the sidewalk, fast asleep in a food dreamland.

Meanwhile, the Old Gentleman, back at his home, also feels unwell and ends up in the same hospital as Stuffy Pete. The doctors are puzzled by these two unusual Thanksgiving patients - one overfed and the other, they think, hasn't eaten in days.

And that's how, in Union Square, a new Thanksgiving story was born, with Stuffy Pete and the Old Gentleman becoming unlikely heroes of a feast-filled adventure!